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Offered January 8, 2014
Prefiled November 18, 2013
A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1.1

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 1.1 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-23.5:5, relating to allocations within highway construction districts by the Commonwealth Transportation Board.

HOUSE BILL NO. 2

Patrons—Stolle, Minchew, Ramadan, Yancey, Anderson, Cole, Hugo, Knight, LaRock, Rust, Scott, Torian and Villanueva

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 1.1 of Chapter 1 of Title 33.1 a section numbered 33.1-23.5:5 as follows:

§ 33.1-23.5:5. Allocations within highway construction districts.

A. Allocations made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board to the Northern Virginia highway construction district or to the Hampton Roads highway construction district shall give priority to projects that are expected to provide the greatest congestion reduction relative to the cost of the project.

B. Allocations made by the Commonwealth Transportation Board to the Bristol highway construction district, Salem highway construction district, Lynchburg highway construction district, Richmond highway construction district, Fredericksburg highway construction district, Culpeper highway construction district, and Staunton highway construction district shall give priority to either (i) projects that are expected to provide the greatest congestion reduction relative to the cost of the project or (ii) projects that promote economic development and promote commerce and trade within the highway construction district.

The governing body of each locality in the seven highway construction districts referred to in this subsection shall vote on its preference between whether allocations shall be made pursuant to clause (i) or clause (ii) and shall submit its preference to the corresponding highway construction district. Each highway construction district shall then give notice of its choice to the Commonwealth Transportation Board and the chosen option will remain the method of allocation for that highway construction district unless notice of a change is given to the Commonwealth Transportation Board at least 60 days before the beginning of a fiscal year.

2. That all local governing bodies shall vote on a prioritization method, either clause (i) or clause (ii) of subsection B of § 33.1-23.5:5 as created by this act, and submit their choice to the appropriate highway construction district by October 1, 2014.

3. That each highway construction district shall consider the recommendations made by the localities within such highway construction district and report to the Commonwealth Transportation Board the preference of the majority of its localities by January 1, 2015.

4. That the Commonwealth Transportation Board shall make allocations pursuant to the provisions of this act beginning July 1, 2015.